

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A seal system comprising:
2 at least one dock pad, the at least one dock pad comprising:
3 a backing structure having a front portion and an opposing rear portion;
4 a first foam layer coupled to the rear portion of the backing structure to
5 provide a seal between a building surface and the dock pad; and
6 a second foam layer coupled to the front portion of the backing structure
7 to provide a seal between the dock pad and a vehicle.
- 1 2. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the at least one dock pad further comprises a
2 theft deterrence component to substantially enclose the second foam layer.
- 1 3. The seal system of claim 2, wherein the theft deterrence component is a metal
2 structure.
- 1 4. The seal system of claim 2, wherein the theft deterrence component is a chain link
2 fence.
- 1 5. The seal system of claim 1, further comprising a removable cover that
2 substantially covers exposed portions of the at least one dock pad.
- 1 6. The seal system of claim 5, wherein the removable cover comprises at least one of
2 Vinyl, Hypalon, and Neoprene.
- 1 7. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers is formed from flexible foam.
- 1 8. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers is formed from polyurethane foam.

1 9. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers has a density of about 1-2 lb/ft³.

1 10. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers has a compression factor of about 30 lb.

1 11. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers has a resilience from about +180 F to about -50 F.

1 12. The seal system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second foam
2 layers is constructed of three-stage foam.

1 13. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the backing structure is constructed from
2 steel.

1 14. The seal system of claim 1, further comprising at least one mounting bracket for
2 coupling the at least one dock pad to the building, the mounting bracket having one long
3 leg and two short legs.

1 15. The seal system of claim 14, wherein the two short legs have different lengths to
2 provide clearance for a rib structure on the building surface.

1 16. The seal system of claim 14, wherein the at least one mounting bracket is
2 adjustable via a slotted aperture.

1 17. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the at least one dock pad includes a plurality
2 of pleats to mitigate abrasion on the at least one dock pad.

1 18. The seal system of claim 17, wherein the configuration of pleats depends on a
2 type of exposure to the at least one dock pad.

1 19. A seal system comprising:
2 at least one dock pad, the at least one dock pad comprising:
3 a backing structure;
4 a foam layer secured to the backing structure; and
5 a theft deterrence component substantially covering at least one side of the
6 foam layer.

1 20. The seal system of claim 19, wherein the theft deterrence component is a chain
2 link fence.

1 21. The seal system of claim 19, wherein the theft deterrence component is secured to
2 a first end portion of the backing structure, wrapped around the foam layer, and secured
3 to a second end portion of the backing structure, such that the foam layer is substantially
4 enclosed by the theft deterrence component.

1 22. A seal system comprising:
2 at least one dock pad having a backing structure and at least one foam layer; and
3 a plurality of mounting brackets to secure the at least one dock pad to a building;
4 wherein each of the mounting brackets forms a U-shaped channel having one long leg
5 and two short legs, the two short legs having different lengths.

1 23. The seal system of claim 22, wherein the long leg of the mounting brackets is
2 secured to the building and the short legs are secured to the backing structure.

1 24. The seal system of claim 22, wherein the mounting brackets are manufactured
2 from 6 to 20 gauge steel.

1 25. The seal system of claim 22, wherein each of the mounting brackets includes a
2 slot formed therein for adjustability.

1 26. A seal system comprising:
2 means for providing a substantially air tight seal between a dock pad and a
3 building surface;
4 means for providing a seal between the dock pad and a rear portion of a vehicle;
5 and
6 means for providing rigidity to the dock pad.

1 27. The seal system of claim 26, further comprising means for deterring theft.